Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A composite filter media for removal of particles from a fluid stream comprising:

   a) a membrane filtration layer comprising ~~a porous polymeric membrane~~ePTFE, the membrane filtration layer having an upstream side and a downstream side relative to the direction of fluid flow; and

   b) at least ~~one depth~~meltblown filtration media layer comprising fibers, said fibers having an electrostatic charge, the at least one ~~depth~~ meltblown filtration media layer having an air permeability of at least 100 frazier and a thickness of less than about 0.7 mm disposed directly on the upstream side of the membrane filtration layer.

2. (CANCELLED)

3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The composite filter media of claim ~~2~~1, further comprising a support layer disposed on the downstream side of the membrane filtration layer.

4. (ORIGINAL) The composite filter media of claim 3, in which the support layer is laminated to the membrane filtration layer.

5. (CANCELLED)

6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The composite filter media of claim ~~2~~1, in which the membrane filtration layer further comprises filler material selected from the group consisting of carbon, carbon black, activated carbon, TiO_2, platinum, colloidal silica, and fumed silica.

7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A renewable composite filter media for removal of particles from a fluid stream comprising:

a) a membrane filtration layer comprising a porous ~~polymeric membrane~~PTFE, the membrane filtration layer having an upstream side and a downstream side relative to the direction of fluid flow;

b) a first ~~depth~~ meltblown filtration media layer having an upstream side and a downstream side relative to the direction of fluid flow, the first ~~depth~~ meltblown filtration media layer having an air permeability of at least 100 Frazier and a thickness of less than 0.7 mm and having an electrostatic charge, ~~and~~ the meltblown filtration media layer being disposed directly on the upstream side of the membrane filtration layer; and

c) at least one additional ~~depth filtration~~meltblown media layer having an electrostatic charge and removably attached to the upstream side of the first depth filtration media layer.

8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The renewable composite filter media of claim 7, in which the first ~~depth~~ meltblown filtration media layer is removably attached to the membrane filtration layer.

9. (CANCELLED)

10. (ORIGINAL) The renewable composite filter of claim 7, further comprising a support layer disposed on the downstream side of the membrane filtration layer.

11. (ORIGINAL) The renewable composite filter of claim 10, in which the support layer is laminated to the membrane filtration layer.

12. (CANCELLED)

13. (CANCELLED)

14. (ORIGINAL) The renewable composite filter media of claim 7, in which the membrane filtration layer further comprises filler material selected from the group consisting of carbon, carbon black, activated carbon, TiO_2, platinum, colloidal silica, and fumed silica.

15. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The renewable composite filter media of claim 7, further comprising at least two additional ~~depth~~ meltblown filtration media layers removably attached to the upstream side of the first ~~depth~~ meltblown filtration media layer.

16. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The renewable composite filter media of claim 7, further comprising at least three additional ~~depth~~ meltblown filtration media layers removably attached to the upstream side of the first ~~depth~~ meltblown filtration media layer.

17. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The renewable composite filter media of claim 7, further comprising at least four additional ~~depth~~ meltblown filtration media layers removably attached to the upstream side of the first ~~depth~~ meltblown filtration media layer.

18. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The renewable composite filter media of claim 7, in which the at least one ~~depth~~ meltblown filtration media layer further comprises a pattern of perforations whereby the at least one ~~depth~~ meltblown filtration media layer is removable by tearing at the perforations.

19. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The renewable composite filter media of claim 7, in which at least one ~~depth~~ meltblown filtration media layer further comprises a first portion adjacent to the perimeter of the at least one ~~depth~~ meltblown filtration media layer and a second portion, the first portion being bonded to the filter media at a relatively higher strength than the second portion, whereby the at least one ~~depth~~ meltblown filtration media is removable by tearing away the second portion of the at least one ~~depth~~ meltblown filtration media layer from the first bonded portion.

20. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The renewable composite filter media of claim 7, in which at least one ~~depth~~ meltblown filtration media layer is crush cut whereby the at least one ~~depth~~ meltblown filtration media is removable by tearing at the cut.

21. (ORIGINAL) The renewable composite filter media of claim 7, in which the membrane filtration layer has a permeability of at least about 7 Frazier.

22. (ORIGINAL) The renewable composite filter media of claim 7, in which the membrane filtration layer has a permeability of at least about 15 Frazier.

23. (ORIGINAL) The renewable composite filter media of claim 7, in which the membrane filtration layer has a permeability of at least about 80 Frazier.

24. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The renewable composite filter media of claim 7, in which each of the ~~depth~~ meltblown filtration media layers has a permeability of at least about 30 Frazier.

25. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The renewable composite filter media of claim 7, in which each of the ~~depth~~ meltblown filtration media layers has a permeability of at least about 100 Frazier.

26. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The renewable composite filter media of claim 7 in which each of the ~~depth~~ meltblown filtration media layers has a permeability of at least about 200 Frazier.

27. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The renewable composite filter media of claim 7, in which the membrane filtration layer having an air permeability of about 10 Frazier to about 40 Frazier and a particle filtration efficiency of at least about 50% for 0.3 micron sized particles, and wherein the at least one ~~removable filter~~additional meltblown media layer has an air permeability of about 30 to about 200 Frazier and having a particle filtration efficiency of at least 50% for 0.3 micron sized particles.

28. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The renewable composite filter media of claim 27, in which the membrane filtration layer has a particle filtration efficiency of at least 75% for 0.3 micron sized particles and wherein the at least one ~~removable filter~~additional meltblown media layer has an air permeability of about 60 to about 150 Frazier and a particle filtration efficiency of at least 85% for 0.3 micron sized particles.

29. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The renewable composite filter media of claim 7 in which the membrane filtration layer and the ~~depth~~ meltblown filtration media layers are pleated such that the apices of the membrane filtration layer and ~~depth~~ meltblown filtration media layers are aligned.

30. (ORIGINAL) The renewable filter media of claim 7 in which the filter media is shaped as a pleated panel.

31. (ORIGINAL) The renewable composite filter media of claim 7 in which two edges of the filter media are joined to form a cylindrical filter media.

32. (ORIGINAL) The renewable composite filter media of claim 7 in which the filter media is formed as a pleated cylinder.

33. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A renewable composite filter media for removal of particles from a fluid stream comprising;

a) a membrane filtration layer comprising a ~~porous polymeric membrane~~ ePTFE, the membrane filtration layer having an upstream side and a downstream side relative to the direction of fluid flow;

b) a support layer having an upstream side and a downstream side relative to the direction of fluid flow, the support layer disposed on the upstream side of the membrane filtration layer;

c) a first ~~depth~~ meltblown filtration media layer having an upstream side and a downstream side relative to the direction of fluid flow, the first ~~depth~~ meltblown filtration media layer having an electrostatic charge and disposed on the upstream side of the support layer; and

d) at least one additional ~~depth~~ meltblown filtration media layer removably attached to the upstream side of the first ~~depth~~ meltblown filtration media layer.

34. (CANCELLED)

35. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The renewable composite filter media of claim 33, in which the first ~~depth~~ meltblown filtration media layer is removably attached to the support layer.

36. (ORIGINAL) The renewable composite filter media of claim 33, in which the support layer is laminated to the membrane filtration layer.

37. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The renewable composite filter media of claim 33, in which at least one ~~depth~~ meltblown filtration media layer is crush cut whereby the at least one ~~depth~~ meltblown filtration media is removable by tearing at the cut.

38. (ORIGINAL) The renewable composite filter media of claim 33, in which the membrane filtration layer has a permeability of at least about 7 Frazier.

39. (ORIGINAL) The renewable composite filter media of claim 33, in which the membrane filtration layer has a permeability of at least about 15 Frazier.

40. (ORIGINAL) The renewable composite filter media of claim 33, in which the membrane filtration layer has a permeability of at least about 80 Frazier.

41. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The renewable composite filter media of claim 33, in which each of the ~~depth~~ meltblown filtration media layers has a permeability of at least about 30 Frazier.

42. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The renewable composite filter media of claim 33, in which each of the ~~depth~~ meltblown filtration media layers has a permeability of at least about 100 Frazier.

43. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The renewable composite filter media of claim 33, in which each of the ~~depth~~ meltblown filtration media layers has a permeability of at least about 200 Frazier.

44. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The renewable composite filter media of claim 33, in which the membrane filtration layer having an air permeability of about 10 Frazier to about 40 Frazier and a particle filtration efficiency of at least about 50% for 0.3 micron sized particles, and wherein the at least one ~~removable filter~~additional meltblown media layer has an air permeability of about 30 to about 200 Frazier and a particle filtration efficiency of at least 50% for 0.3 micron sized particles.

45. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The renewable composite filter media of claim 44, in which the membrane filtration layer has a particle filtration efficiency of at least 75% for 0.3 micron sized particles and wherein the at least one ~~removable filter~~additional meltblown media layer has an air permeability of about 60 to about 150 Frazier and a particle filtration efficiency of at least 85% for 0.3 micron sized particles.

46. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The renewable composite filter media of claim 33, in which the membrane filtration layer and the ~~depth~~ meltblown filtration media layers are pleated such that the apices of the membrane filtration layer and ~~depth~~ meltblown filtration media layers are aligned.

47. (ORIGINAL) The renewable filter media of claim 33, in which the filter media is formed as a pleated panel.

48. (ORIGINAL) The renewable composite filter media of claim 33, in which two edges of the filter media are joined to form a cylindrical filter media.

49. (ORIGINAL) The renewable composite filter media of claim 33, in which the filter media is formed as a pleated cylinder.

50. (ORIGINAL) A renewable composite filter for removal of particles from a fluid stream comprising:

a) a frame; and

b) a renewable composite filter media according to claim 7.

wherein the composite filter material is sealed in the frame with a potting material.

51. (ORIGINAL) The renewable composite filter of claim 50, in which the potting material is selected from the group of silicone, polyurethane, epoxy, plastic adhesives and plastisol.

52. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The renewable composite filter of claim 50, in which the filter frame further comprises a knife edge adjacent to the perimeter of the filter media whereby ~~the~~ at least one ~~depth filtration~~meltblown media layer is removable by tearing the layer from the frame at the knife edge.

53. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A renewable composite filter media according to claim 7, the renewable composite filter media having an initial pressure drop across the filter media and an initial filtration efficiency before use, in which the filter media is renewable ~~after~~ use by removal of a ~~depth filtration~~meltblown media layer such that the pressure drop across the composite filter media upon removal is less than or equal to about the initial pressure drop across the filter media.

54. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The renewable composite filter media of claim 53 in which the filtration efficiency after removal of ~~the depth~~meltblown filtration media layer is about equal to the initial filtration efficiency.

55. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A renewable composite filter media according to claim 7, the renewable composite filter media having an initial permeability and an initial filtration efficiency before use, in which the filter media is renewable after use by removal of ~~a depth~~ meltblown filtration media layer such that the permeability of the composite filter media upon removal is greater than or equal to 80% of the initial permeability.

56. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The renewable filter of claim 55 in which the filtration efficiency after removal of ~~the depth~~meltblown filtration media layer is greater than about 85% of the initial filtration efficiency.

57. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A renewable composite filter for removal of particles from a fluid stream, the renewable composite filter comprising:

a) a filter frame;

b) a pleated laminate comprising an ePTFE membrane and a support layer, the laminate having an upstream side and a downstream side relative to the direction of fluid flow, the laminate disposed within the frame and having an air permeability of about 3 Frazier to about 15 Frazier, and a particle filtration efficiency of at least 90% for 0.3 micron sized particles;

c) at least one pleated electrostatically charged melt blown filter media having an air permeability of about 30 Frazier to about 150 Frazier and a particle filtration efficiency of at least 50% for 0.3 micron sized particles, the at least one pleated electrostatically charged melt blown filter media disposed on the upstream side of the membrane such that the apices of the membrane and the melt blown filter are aligned, the melt blown filter media layer further comprising perforations adjacent to the frame; and wherein the melt blown filter media is removable from the frame by tearing at the perforations.